

Segment Seven — Central Arizona Project

The Central Arizona Project Aqueduct System (CAP) is a 336-mile long series of canals, tunnels, siphons and pipelines, stretching from the Colorado River near Parker to past the San Xavier Indian Reservation southwest of Tucson. Its primary function is to provide water from the Colorado River to Central and Southeast Arizona. Construction began in 1973, with initial water deliveries in 1985. The CAP was declared substantially complete in 1993. The CAP was constructed by the Bureau of Reclamation (RECLAMATION) and is operated by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD).

As part of the planning for the CAP, RECLAMATION committed to maintain a 20-foot recreation corridor throughout the project. Since completion of the aqueduct, portions of available right-of-way have been licensed for other uses. In other areas, development is restricted by topography. A study is currently underway to investigate the feasibility of establishing a

multi-use path along the CAP aqueduct system across the Phoenix Metro Area to Lake Pleasant. This study systematically looks at the opportunities and constraints to implement a continuous path for those users desiring a paved surface, and those that desire an unpaved pathway. The study weighs the operational and maintenance concerns of RECLAMATION and the CAWCD combined with the liability issues associated with providing a path within the CAP corridor. The study also evaluates the needs of all potential users including equestrians, walkers, joggers, bicyclists, in-line skaters, and all other non-motorized recreation and transportation users.

The study has a technical review committee with membership from RECLAMATION, CAWCD, ADOT, MCDOT, Maricopa County, and the cities of Peoria, Mesa, Phoenix, and Scottsdale. The Maricopa County Department of Transportation is managing the study.

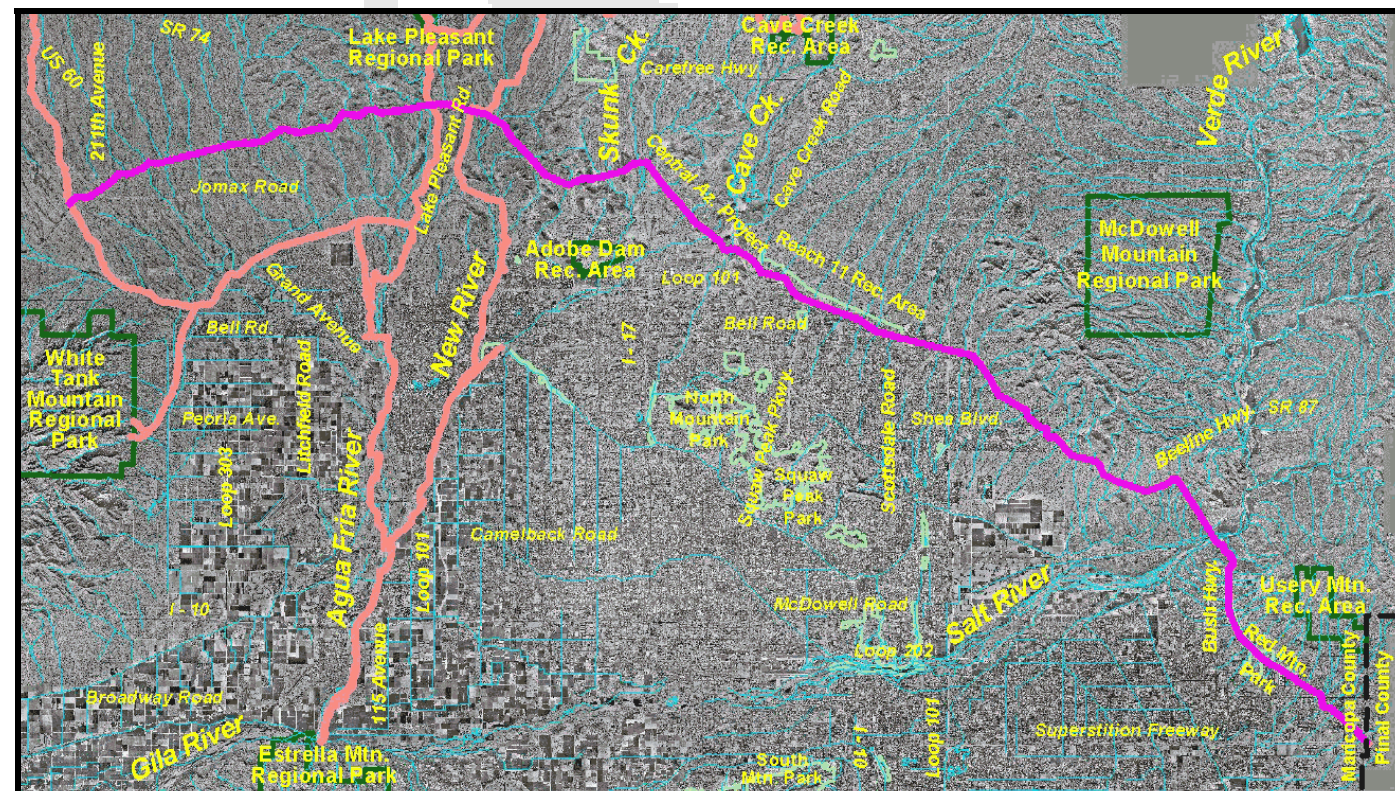


Figure 28: Central Arizona Project Aerial



Central Arizona Project continued

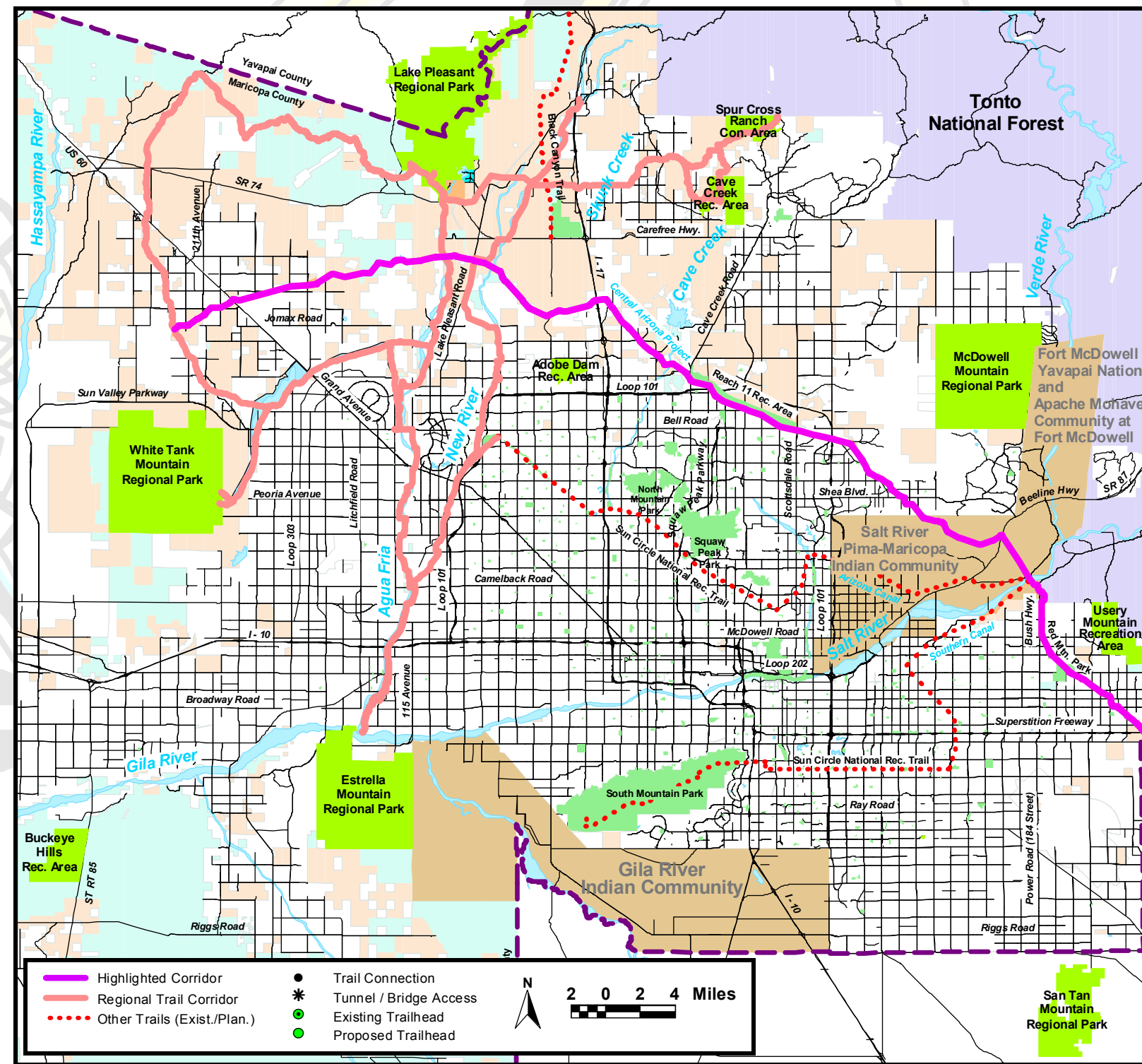
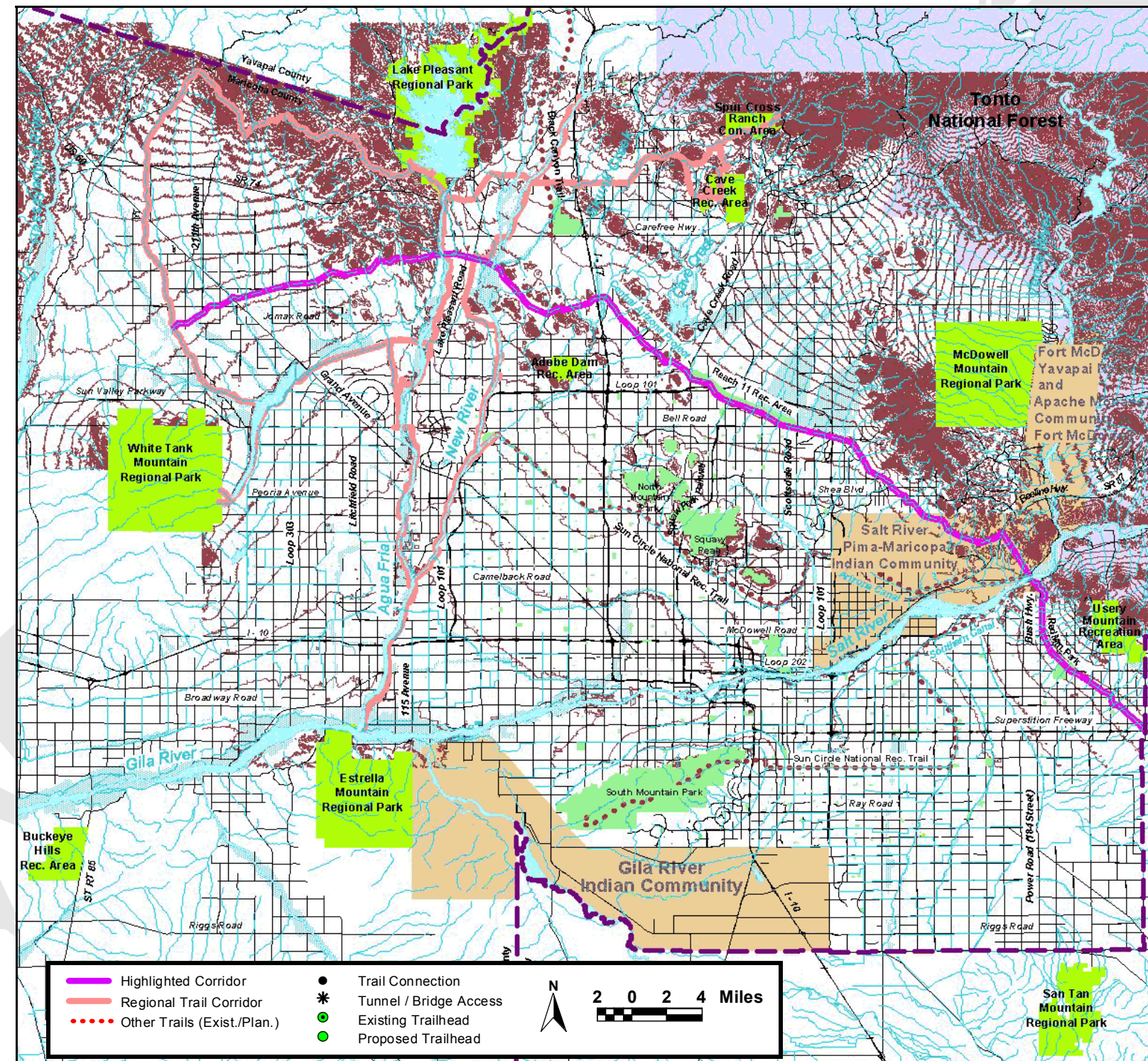


Figure 29: Central Arizona Project Land Ownership



Central Arizona Project continued



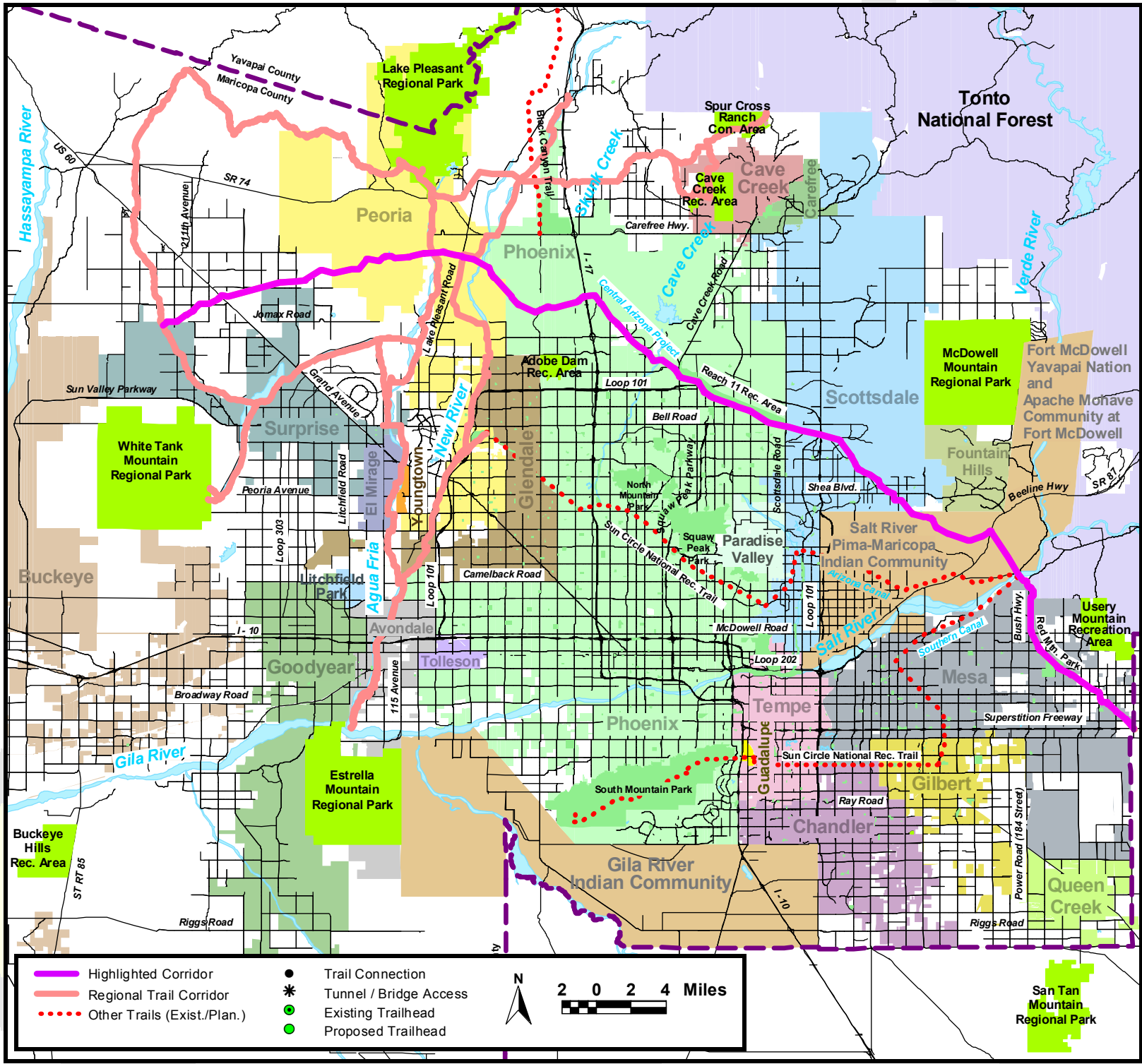
Natural and Water Features

- 100-Year Floodplain
- River, Creek
- Canal
- Contour 80 Feet

Figure 30: Central Arizona Project Natural Features



Central Arizona Project continued



Jurisdictions

Figure 31: Central Arizona Project

